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SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1909.

Recognizing Freedom of Publication.

The modification of Justice Gould's injunction against the officers of the American Federation of Labor in the boycott case removes one serious ground of objection to the original decree. That the injunction went too far in restraining liberty of speech and of publication, as the Court of Appeals holds, has been the opinion of many persons who approved the injunction otherwise. Justice Gould's decree enjoined the defendants from publishing or otherwise circulating, whether in writing or orally, any statements or notices of any kind or character whatsoever, calling attention of the complainant's customers, or of dealers, or tradesmen, or the public to any boycott against the complainant. This has now been modified so as to enjoin the defendants only from publishing the name of the complainant in the "We don't patronize" list and from referring to complainant as appearing in that list, "in furtherance of the boycott." Under the broad terms of the original injunction, the officers of the federation were unable to discuss the boycott or the court proceedings against them without incurring the penalty of violating the injunction, and there can be no question that their rights of freedom of speech and liberty of printing were seriously curtailed. They were, in fact, forbidden to discuss or to print anything about matters that every citizen could discuss, orally or in print, with perfect liberty. The Court of Appeals now restores to them the liberty of which the original decree sought to deprive them.

As the practical effect of enjoining the unfair list is very little, since publication of the information it is desired to convey by means of the list can be made in other ways, the inhibitory value of the injunction would have remained about the same if Justice Shepard's opinion had been adopted—that publication cannot be restrained by injunction—and all reference to the unfair list had been eliminated from the modified decree. But as the decree now stands, the federation officers will have no difficulty complying with its provisions. The modification of the Court of Appeals has, too, an obvious bearing on the penalty imposed on the federation officers for violation of the injunction, which is now considered too broad. Some modification of that penalty seems probable, in view of the fact that part of the offense consisted in disobeying prohibitions which have been overruled by the higher court.

Ladies and gentlemen: Winter, that famous and furiously funny old clown, will now begin his annual in-swing-out-again turn with the tap of spring.

So Mote It Be.

When designated diplomatic negotiations are brought to final adjustment, and each of the interested parties foregoes further argument and prepares to accept the awards as they may have been decided upon, the incident becomes "closed," in the polite parlance of the craft, we believe, and everybody concerned is happy forever thereafter, and so forth and so on. This is quite as it should be, we think, and as becomes a patriotic and liberty-loving journal, we give it our hearty approval.

All of which is courteously preliminary to embodying herein, for our readers' inspection, the following pleasing and altogether satisfactory bit of information clipped from the news items of the day:

"President Taft has decided that his official residence shall continue to be known as 'The White House' during his administration. It has been rumored in Washington for some days that Mr. Taft would return to the old practice of calling the White House 'The Executive Mansion,' but it was rumored today that the designation employed by President Roosevelt will be continued on the official stationery and all documents coming from the President's office."

We do not claim this as a victory for The Washington Herald, albeit we may have played our modest part in bringing it to pass. Far be it from us to weave one laurel wreath for the adornment of our own brow or the embarrassment of our own simple and shrinking virtues. We rather choose to say it is a victory for good taste, and the ultimate vindication of an idea set adrift hopefully—a returning of bread cast upon the waters, so to speak, fashioned into fruit cake and angel food.

We admit, nevertheless, it pleases us mightily, and we incline to shout from the heights of our optimism in respect of the smaller things of life, "All's well." For a continuance of "The White House" in lieu of a return to "Executive Mansion" and the collateral pomposity that formidable term implies, we, in behalf of the great mass of average citizens for whom we feel we have the right to speak in this isolated and specific emergency, at least, thank you, Mr. President. We asked no post-offices, no consularships, no material things of any name or nature whatsoever. We sought the transformation from platform promise to positive fact of no issue enunciated in any party creed or promulgation. We merely petitioned that we be permitted

to think of you and speak of you in your official capacity as occupying "The White House"—a soothing, fine old Anglo-Saxon designation—rather than as occupying a seat of the mighty so awe-inspiring to it, of necessity, must be referred to in so stilted a mouthful as "Executive Mansion."

"The White House" it is, and so it shall remain. Again, thanks, Mr. President—and may your shadow never grow less!

No Tax on Coffee.

We do not wonder that protests are pouring in upon the Ways and Means Committee against the imposition of a tax on coffee. That is a tax which would go right into the homes. We have no doubt that every cent of the coffee tax, no matter what may be said to the contrary, would be exacted from the buyer at retail. It was so with the war taxes, and it is true of every tax which can be transferred to the consumer.

If more revenue is really needed, taxation should be levied elsewhere than upon the common people. Let not the extravagances of billion-dollar sessions be charged upon the man and the woman who can hardly make both ends meet. If we must keep up this imperialistic expenditure, if we must outvie the world in military pomp and power, let the taxes be levied upon those most able to pay, and not upon those least able. An inheritance tax or an income tax would be infinitely preferable to a tax on coffee. Even a tax on commercial and business papers, vexatious though it is, would be better.

A cry has been going up the last few years from the consumer. The price of living has advanced faster than the rate of wages. In the midst of prosperity great masses of the people have been relatively impoverished. What we need is reduction, not increase, of taxation. The consumer demands to be heard in his own behalf. To meet his plea with a fresh tax on one of the commonest necessities of life would be hollow mockery. We do not think the statesmen responsible for the tremendous increase in our national expenditures will have the nerve to impose it.

What is this? The millionaire set no longer hungering for "Uncle Sam's" ambassadorships? We trust sincerely this will neither cause the European nose to sniff audibly nor turn up perceptibly.

Navy Officers Unfairly Taxed.

Congress adjourned without action on an inconspicuous piece of pending legislation. It was as just as it was unnoticeable. It aimed to reimburse some twenty or twenty-five naval officers for money which they had to return to the public Treasury by virtue of the action of an inconspicuous piece of pending legislation. It was as just as it was unnoticeable. It aimed to reimburse some twenty or twenty-five naval officers for money which they had to return to the public Treasury by virtue of the action of an inconspicuous piece of pending legislation. It was as just as it was unnoticeable. It aimed to reimburse some twenty or twenty-five naval officers for money which they had to return to the public Treasury by virtue of the action of an inconspicuous piece of pending legislation.

The legislation which was sought aimed to authorize the Treasury Department to restore this fund to the officers from whom it had been acquired, and there seemed to be every reason why this should be done without delay, since the public Treasury was less entitled to the refund than the officers, who had benefited in no way from the original transaction. The measure of relief, however, was not taken up, and it will have to go over until another session.

The New York Herald says the people want tariff revision "well done." Yes, indeed; no half-baked business.

One way to get the best of Old Boreas, Jack Frost & Co. would be to make the next inauguration a surprise party.

We do not believe airships will ever become popular, however, until people are quite certain it is not necessary to get down on one's back and wiggle under them in order to repair them.

We predict that the Outlook will not be projected into the field of daily journalism before a certain distinguished person gets home from a certain hunting expedition, nevertheless.

It appears the Illinois legislature fails to appreciate the extreme gravity of a Hopkinsian United States Senate.

When an invincible Jeffries meets an unconquerable Johnson we fear the American "stooge" stands to lose two bright and particular stars simultaneously.

"Read the glorious history of Tennessee," said one of the lawyers for the prosecution in the Carmack murder case to the "gentlemen of the jury." Unfortunately, four of the said gentlemen have thus far neglected to familiarize themselves with the alphabet.

The South inclines to wax more or less merry over Mr. Dickinson's designation as the "Southern Cabinet member." One party gravely refers to him as "that distinguished Dikette of Chicago, Ill." The South's splendid sense of humor has stood it in good stead many a time.

Notwithstanding Mrs. Hetty Green's remark that she would rather see her daughter marry a good newspaper man than a duke, a stout old gentleman who never saw the inside of a newspaper

office in his life finally got the daughter. What was wrong? Have all the "good newspaper men" in this country turned "journalists"? Or are they already married?

Mr. Thomas Collier Platt says "Roosevelt is out of politics for good." For "good" from the Platt point of view, he probably means.

The announcement of Miss Ethel Barrymore's approaching wedding will not be set aside as conclusive evidence that she aspires to become a sock-darner, however.

"The President will shoot no tigers in Africa—there are none," says a writer. Plenty of them can be found in Birmingham, Ala., we understand.

"South must quit her cowardice, or split at once," says Uncle Remus' Magazine. That the South has remained solid from "cowardice" is rather startling information; and that the statement should appear in Uncle Remus' Magazine is, to say the least, mildly surprising.

Finding themselves once more perilously near a possible partnership with Political Wisdom, Common Sense, and Opportunity, the Democratic members of Congress are preparing, apparently, to perform their usual stunt of agreeing to disagree.

The Chicago Post is distressed in mind that Senator Tillman should oppose changing inauguration day "from snow-shovel time to pitchfork weather." Who said anything about "pitchfork weather"? That does not come in April!

We suspect, moreover, that Mr. Hoke Smith ultimately will have to explain from the stump whether he eats his chicken fried Georgia style or a la Maryland.

The suggestion that Secretary of State Bacon was President for a few minutes on March 4 is interesting, perhaps, but not sufficiently impressive to start anew the question whether Mr. Taft is the twenty-sixth or twenty-seventh President of the United States, we fancy.

Joe Miller, up-to-date: "What will Roosevelt be assassinating next?" Answer: "Why, a-sailing the sea, of course." (Great laughter among undesirable, malefactors, and so forth.)

Stephenson gets the Senatorship. What does Wisconsin get? Inquires the Saginaw News. Why, we believe the exact amount is yet to be determined, is it not?

A Grave Question.

The question as to the further extension of the Federal power over trade and commerce, and the modification and possible abolition of the distinction between interstate and domestic commerce is very grave and important, but it is a subject which cannot be wisely ignored.

The American people, in no spirit of rash innovation but with the same courageous resolve with which the generation which framed the Constitution faced new conditions, must at no distant day determine how far the limitation of Federal power to one division of commerce is expedient to the changed conditions which steam and electricity have brought about. Incidental to this is the unalterable belief in the traditions of the Democratic party which induced him to accept the chairmanship of the Republican National Committee, there being more voters in the Republican party and consequently greater opportunity for inspired mission work.

Perhaps it is the inherent democracy of William H. Taft which makes him look so longingly at the electoral vote of the solid South and devise ways by which it could be made more effective in furthering the doctrines of Democracy by keeping him in office for a second term.

These are glorious Democratic days. We can barely restrain our emotion while we ponder the glorious Democratic days of Joseph G. Cannon, Seneca E. Payne, and John D. Rockefeller, the Dingley law into a tariff for revenue only.

Can't All Be Happy.

Lower most prices will be a godsend to the workers of the city, but a farmer has his own view as to the reduction in the price of corn. The conclusion appears to be that we cannot all be happy at the same time.

Don't Stop the Funerals.

The trolley car may have the right of way in Washington, but in Baltimore it is the coal cart that is boss of the street.

A Hit for Every Head.

VOL. II. NO. 43.

EVERY SATURDAY.

Our Motto: If you see it in The Big Stick, it's necessarily so.

INSURRECTION.

There is no use in trying to get us excited about more earthquakes shocks in Italy, the reversal of the Gompers decision, the Carmack case, or the release of the Standard Oil Company from its \$20,000 fine. The human mind is capable of only being interested just so much, and most of us have to reserve all our force adequately to do justice to the horror that is taking place in Congress.

Revert again Speaker Cannon! The act of the barons in forcing King John to sign Magna Charta; the revolt of the American colonies against Great Britain; the revolution of the boys of Dethlefsen Hall against Mr. Squeens—these historic events, pregnant as they were with consequences, are as nothing compared to the present revolution against the rules of Joseph G. Cannon.

Indeed, it must be true that the nation's "Uncle Joe" is falling into "the sea and yellow lead," else the insurrection would not dare to raise its head. And whether the insurgents are successful or not, the spectacle of the revolt is a sad one. So long has the clamorous clear-moaner of the Union ruled with an iron hand that we cannot contemplate, without pity, the vision of his gavel trembling in a nervous grasp. We cannot believe that the picture language which is one of the famous Illinois statesman's chief charms is to be of no avail.

Surely at the last moment those Democrats who seem just now to be riding on the crest of a prosperous revolt, will relent, give up the fight, and let Congress go on as it has done so long.

It is true that President Taft has lately backed Mr. Cannon; Mr. Watson, the Republican "whip," has worked hard to save his chief, but not enough has yet been done. The time for those who stand for Cannonism and the Constitution to come forward and crush this cruel insurrection. The fight is too human, the consequences may be too dire. In the sacred name of Taft and the tariff, we call on the insurgents as they are strong to be merciful.

Our poet laureate, N. O. M., does ample justice to the present situation, but asks us editorially to note and emphasize the fact that he is not taking sides.

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A LITTLE NONSENSE.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Lady Clara Vere de Vere,
Help us guess.
When the springtime doth appear,
What of dress?

Will the waist line be this year
At the knees?
Lady Clara Vere de Vere,
Tell us, please.

Or will belts beneath the arms
Be the thing
To enhance a damsel's charms
In the spring?

Lady Clara Vere de Vere,
Help us guess.
When the spring is here,
What of dress?

His Method.

"Why do you always burst into tears
When you come home late from the club?"
"My wife would burst into tears if I
did not tell 'em to let it, my boy. It's the only way."

Mildly Interested.

"What was that misty old explorer talking
about?" Inquired the languid lady.
"Progressive Patagonia."
"And how do you play it?"

Little to Do.

"All the world's a stage."
"Yes; and my cook seems to think I
keep her merely as my understudy."

Some Advice.

Cut out the slang, my friend.
It makes folks think
You're keeping tab
That your vocab
Is on the blink.

Her Hands Full.

"Why does a woman act so flustered
when she crosses a down-town street?"
"Well, she feels that she has her life
in her hands, in addition to her skirts,
her pocketbook, and her numerous packages."

All Happy.

"Everybody's pleased in Washington."
"How, now?"
"A lot of people are getting public office,
and a lot of others are welcoming
the privacy which they prefer."

GLORIOUS DEMOCRATIC DAYS.

Perhaps Taft's Cabinet Is Full of Jeffersonians.

From the New York World.

Jacob M. Dickinson, of Tennessee, Secretary of War in President Taft's Cabinet, asserts, by way of rebuke to former Mayor Dunne, of Chicago, that he has always been and still is a Democrat, "though I never voted for Bryan."

This fervent declaration of principle ought to clear up Mr. Dickinson's title to any dinner tendered him either by the Iniquitous Club or other Democratic organization. Evidently the Democrats do better in the election last fall than we thought; for in addition to the gulf already enumerated, they carried the office of Secretary of War as well. This is encouraging, and we are waiting for further confessions of Democratic faith from members of Mr. Taft's Cabinet.

Possibly Philander C. Knox is another Democrat who believes in Democratic principles, but never acquired the habit of voting the ticket. We shall not be greatly astonished now to hear Frank H. Hitchcock announce that it was his unalterable belief in the traditions of the Democratic party which induced him to accept the chairmanship of the Republican National Committee, there being more voters in the Republican party and consequently greater opportunity for inspired mission work.

Perhaps it is the inherent democracy of William H. Taft which makes him look so longingly at the electoral vote of the solid South and devise ways by which it could be made more effective in furthering the doctrines of Democracy by keeping him in office for a second term.

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It's the Wrong Day.

From the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

With the memory of the freezing catastrophe fresh in his mind, the House should take up the matter at the first opportunity and at last start the necessary machinery for doing away with the March date. There is no proper connection whatever between installing a new President and grip, chills, and pneumonia.

Dismal Outlook for Golf.

From the Philadelphia Press.

When a President is so busy that he has to go without his lunch the golf playing outlook doesn't appear so hopeful.

A FORECAST FOR MARCH 4.

Oh, Willis Moore! oh, Willis Moore, how did you pull together
For March the fourth a blizzard cold and such tempestuous weather?
Same old story he'll now enact.
And then you trotted out a storm that certainly did freeze us.

We had our seats along the streets, and all of us were ready
To shout for Taft like we were deaf and say good-bye to Teddy.
But when the snow and ice lay came forth as twin assassins,
We once again amid the crowd and dinned our free predictions.

It may be true that what you do is sometimes fairly proper.
But what you said and what we read was certainly a whopper.
For March the fourth sure made us wish and caused us all to rear back.
And we're no use for your exult. To hush with your "Flareback!"
TROOPER R.

SAME OLD STORY.

(By our poet laureate.)
Uncle Joe's a winner, sure—
Mark the word!
Gave him and rides intact,
Same old story he'll now enact.
With a new and strong compact,
Foes are few and getting fewer—
Joe's a bird.

Dalzell's on the job again—
Easy boss!
Taft's in it out and dried,
As of yore when fat was fried,
Line-up on protection's side,
Serenade now, Seneca Payne—
People's loss.

Mundock led a lively dance—
Stalwart man!
Campbell, Phil, deplored the fight,
Fought for peace with 'til his might.
Harmonized both day and night,
Lamented, brave, with spear and lance—
Also ran!

Dixie sees the trend of things—
Andor damp!
Fain would promote growth of
Trade.
Party maxims in the shade,
Fending the prospective raid,
Tender, Clark's fond hopes take wings—
Luckless Champ!

Solons all are much the same—
Stripes akin!
Ready to be caught and tagged,
Willing to be bucked and gagged.
Until spout is safely bugged,
The House of Representatives—
More's the sin!

N. O. MESSENGER.

PROUD OF CALLAHAN.

Editor The Big Stick:
D. J. Callahan, your gifted contributor, whose exquisite prose poem, "The Man With the Hammer," created a furor among insular visitors, is well known here. His rise to fame in the literary world is greatly aided by this entire section. Norfolk, Portsmouth, Newport News, and Old Point all now lay claim to him as a favorite son. We hope he will write often for your paper.

TILLMAN WHEELER.

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INAUGURATION DATES.

Change in Constitution Only Remedy for the Situation.

From the New York Tribune.

The national committee, organized in 1901 to facilitate the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution reforming the political calendar, has called into life again, and will do what it can to secure the passage of a joint resolution somewhat similar to that recently introduced by Senator Dewey. It is assured of the cooperation of many governors, among them Gov. Hughes. The committee, at its meeting in Washington on Wednesday, wisely reversed the action which it took in 1902, when conducting the agitation for an abandonment of March 4 as inauguration day. It had originally advocated the Hoar plan, now revived by Mr. Dewey, of lengthening the terms of one President and one Vice President, and to push to the date of the installation of their successors from March 4 to April 30, or to some other day in the last week of April. But when an unreasonable opposition developed in Congress the committee dropped the idea of changing the date for the commencement and expiration of the terms of the President and Vice President and of Senators and Representatives, and tried to compromise on a simple postponement of the day for holding the outdoor inauguration ceremonies.

That compromise robbed the movement of all national interest, and Congress naturally refused to consider the trivial change involved in any such belated local celebration of an event long passed. No change of the Constitution or the statutes is required to permit the city of Washington to hold an after-thought inaugural parade in May, June, or October, when the President may or may not be in the city, and the two Houses of Congress are in recess. Such a ceremony might have a certain success in the District of Columbia but it would be impossible to interest the rest of the country in it, or to secure for it the attendance of governors, troops, and political organizations from distant States. The country would have a real inauguration celebration or none at all. The change from one administration to another, and the suggestions which such a change evokes give the ceremony its real significance.

Americans prefer to expend their enthusiasm on live ideas and events. They like to seize the psychological moment. They will reject as absurd the notion of letting an inauguration, with all that it means, take effect on March 4, and then waiting until the end of April to give a public expression of their feeling about it.

Representative Crumpacker, of Indiana, is out with a plan for an inauguration on December 1, making that day the beginning of our political year. Such a change would remove the inconveniences of the present short session of Congress. But it would not insure proper weather conditions for the inauguration pageant, and would involve holding State elections in the first week of October, instead of the first week of November. Such a change would be unfortunate, since October is the most suitable month in the year for campaigning, and the first week in November is probably the very best time for holding general elections. It is to be doubted, moreover, whether so abrupt a transition from one administration to another is desirable. A President-elect needs time to think and to acquaint himself to his new responsibilities, and the country is better off for having a little leisure in which to consider the meaning of the change. Our government is one of checks and balances, and the time which elapses between a President's election and his inauguration is a useful check on the rash employment of newly acquired power.

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